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GO SERV GRANTS MORE THAN \$30 MILLION FOR AMERICORPS IN CALIFORNIA

Nearly \$2 million for the San Joaquin and Central Valley

SACRAMENTO—Chuck J. Supple, Executive Director for the Governor’s Office on Service and Volunteerism (GO SERV) today announced more than \$30 million in AmeriCorps funding for California, which includes \$1,934,423 in grants that will support more than 200 AmeriCorps members serving in the San Joaquin and Central Valley.

“AmeriCorps members serving in the Central Valley will join a force of some 6,000 strong to tackle tough issues in communities throughout California,” said Mr. Supple. AmeriCorps members will tutor and mentor students in afterschool programs, work to preserve California’s natural resources through habitat restoration, and meet other critical community needs.

Some of the programs supported by the GO SERV grant in the San Joaquin and greater Central Valley region include:

Central Valley Communities for Children

\$620,880

52 AmeriCorps members will tutor K-12 students from low-income communities in reading and math during and after school. Members mentor students year-round, working with them to improve their grades and attendance record.

Rural AmeriCorps Partnership

\$230,400

22 members serving as academic mentors to groups of ten students in grades 6 – 8 will work with rural, low-income immigrant children to improve their literacy, focusing on children from Latino families where English is a second language.

Bakersfield Community College

\$132,153

35 students from Bakersfield College members will serve as tutors for 400 under-performing elementary school students in grades K-3. Members will work with students to achieve higher scores on standardized tests.

Greenfield Public Safety

\$433,590

30 members will act as mentors to students, provide afterschool activities and summer programs, and monitor children identified as exhibiting aggressive behavior. Activities offered to students will help them develop positive social and leadership skills while avoiding gang involvement, violence and substance abuse.

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SOS AmeriCorps-Fresno**\$241,000**

20 AmeriCorps members will mentor and tutor Fresno's homeless youth, as well as work on restoring and weatherizing homeless shelters. The education and mentoring team will provide homework assistance to K-12 students, and also educate youth on topics such as rape and HIV/AIDS awareness, pregnancy, and drug and alcohol prevention. Other AmeriCorps members will focus their service work on refurbishing and repairing homeless shelters.

YES Success**\$270,000**

31 AmeriCorps members will mentor K-8 students who perform below their grade level and who are at risk of failing in school. Members will focus their work on children who have been identified by their teacher as being in need of additional academic support and guidance.

In addition to local AmeriCorps grants, GO SERV will grant \$10 million to 13 statewide programs operating in multiple counties, programs such as the California Community Colleges' Teacher and Reading Development Partnerships program that cultivates California's next generation of teachers, the California Alliance for Prevention, a program whose members provide services to families at risk of child abuse and neglect, and the AmeriCorps Backcountry Trails, the focal point for which is the restoration and repair of California's pristine natural resources.

The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) funds national service commissions throughout the country. CNCS supports three different kinds of national service: AmeriCorps, Senior Corps and Learn and Serve. GO SERV, California's national service commission, is responsible for the administration and oversight of California's AmeriCorps programs.

AmeriCorps, otherwise known as the Domestic Peace Corps, was established in 1993 and provides young Americans with the opportunity to serve their communities in exchange for an educational award up to \$4,725 for 1,700 hours of community service.

For more information about national service or to find out how you can get involved in your community, please visit our website at www.goserv.ca.gov or call 916/323-7646.

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